

DECLARATION

As one of the below named inventors, I hereby declare:

THAT my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

THAT I am one of the inventors of the invention entitled: "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUTURING", the specification of which:

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on April 18, 2000 as Application Serial No. 09/550,975

☐ and amended in the attached Amendment.

THAT I do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before our invention or discovery thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention or discovery thereof, or more than one year prior to this application;

THAT the invention was not in public use or on sale in the United States of America for more than one year prior to this application;

THAT this invention has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of this application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months before this application;

THAT I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above;

THAT I acknowledge the duty to disclose information of which I am aware which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56; and

THAT applications for patent or inventor's certificate on this invention or discovery which have been filed by me or my legal representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States of America are as follows (leave blank if none):

(a) none filed more than 12 months prior hereto, unless identified here:

_____; or

(b) earliest filed less than 12 months prior hereto, if any, the priority of which is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. §119. The foreign

application(s) on which priority is claimed is: _____;

and other foreign applications having filing dates earlier than the application(s) on which priority is claimed are as follows:

Please send all correspondence to the attention of Laura Zeman at:

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

One Arizona Center

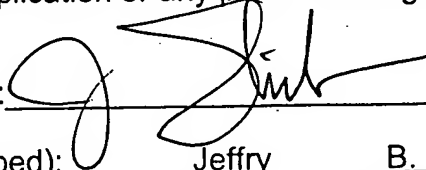
400 East Van Buren

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202

Telephone: (602) 382-6377

Telecopier: (602) 382-6070

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 12-12-00

Inventor's Name (typed): Jeffrey B. Skiba
First Middle Initial Family Name

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence (City): Santa Rosa State (Foreign Country) CA

Post Office Address 1100 Gaddis Ct. Zip Code 95404

Inventor's Signature:  Date: 12-11-00

Inventor's Name (typed): Jeffrey P. Baldwin
First Middle Initial Family Name

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence (City): Phoenix State (Foreign Country) AZ

Post Office Address 3420 W. Via Montoya Drive Zip Code 85027

Inventor's Signature: [Signature] Date: 12/11/00

Inventor's Name (typed): Laird L. Hatch
First Middle Initial Family Name

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence (City): Cave Creek State (Foreign Country) AZ

Post Office Address 28403 N. 55th Street Zip Code 85331

Inventor's Signature: [Signature] Date: 1.2.01

Inventor's Name (typed): Gary M. Gartsman
First Middle Initial Family Name

Citizenship: United States of America

Residence (City): Houston State (Foreign Country) TX

Post Office Address 7401 S. Main Street Zip Code 77030

Inventor's Signature: [Signature] Date: 01/07/01

Inventor's Name (typed): Ran Oren
First Middle Initial Family Name

Citizenship: Israel

Residence (City): Gaaton State (Foreign Country) Israel

Post Office Address Kibbutz Gaaton Zip Code 25130

SNELL & WILMER L.L.P.

One Arizona Center

400 East Van Buren

Phoenix, Arizona 85004-2202

Telephone: (602) 382-6000

Telecopier: (602) 382-6070

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jeffrey B. Skiba et al.
Serial No. : 09/550,975
Filed : April 18, 2000
Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUTURING

Art Unit : 3731
Examiner : Unknown

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REVOCATION AND NEW POWER OF ATTORNEY

Under 37 CFR §3.73(b) ORTHOPAEDIC BIOSYSTEMS LTD., INC., an Arizona corporation, certifies that it is the assignee of 100% of the right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of an assignment from the inventors of the patent application identified above. The forwarded to the Patent and Trademark Office for recording January 19, 2001.

The undersigned has reviewed all the documents in the chain of title of the patent application identified above and, to the best of undersigned's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee identified above.

The undersigned, whose title is supplied below, is empowered to act on behalf of the assignee.

The undersigned, acting on behalf of the assignee, hereby revokes all powers of attorney previously granted in the application and appoints:

Joel R. Petrow, Reg. No. 30,886, Bill Clemmons, Reg. No. 32,558, George K. Stacey, Reg. No. 35,688, Peter J. Devlin, Reg. No. 31,753, Phyllis K. Kristal, Reg. No. 38,524; Timothy A. French, Reg. No. 30,175, 175, John F. Hayden, Reg. No. 37,640, 306, Kurt L. Glitzenstein, Reg. No. 38,524, Frank R. Occhiuti, Reg. No. 35,306.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

May 3, 2001
Date of Deposit
Signature *Laura Murphy*
Laura Murphy
Typed or Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate

with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute the application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.


All telephone calls regarding this application should be directed to Peter J. Devlin at 617-542-5070. All correspondence regarding the application should be sent to JOEL R. PETROW at:

SMITH & NEPHEW, INC.
1450 Brooks Road
Memphis, TN 38116

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patents issued thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 27 APR 01


Joel R. Petrow
Chief Patent Counsel

Joel R.
Assistant

Smith & Nephew, Inc.
1450 Brooks Road
Memphis, TN 38116
Telephone: (901) 396-2121
Facsimile: (901) 396-7824